School of English and Theatre Studies

Course Code: ENGL*3070	Course Title: Intermediate Screenwriting Workshop	Date of Offering: W'21

Course Instructor: Elaine Chang	Course Format: Remote-synchronous

Brief Course Synopsis:

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

With an emphasis on craft, this introductory-to-intermediate seminar addresses some fundamentals of screenwriting through writing, reading, and viewing assignments and exercises; and the ongoing workshopping of students' creative work from initial idea conception to drafting and revision on the page. Topics will include: story structure (e.g., three-act), theme, character development, story lines, scene construction, synopsis writing and pitching, script and film analysis, and options for further training and development. Students will be working consistently, individually and in small groups, on screenplay/film breakdowns; the writing of short film scripts (approx. 1-5 pages) and scenes; the evaluation of each other's writing; and the process-oriented (over product-oriented) practice of rewriting and revision. If logistics and resources permit, we may provide students with opportunities to produce a 5-page short screenplay, so as to retrace the technical and production aspects of filmmaking back to the specialized vocabulary of screenwriting. Final assignment: TBD, but may consist of a formal feature-length screenplay treatment and sample scenes. **Full participation in all collaborative course activities, including peer small group work, is needed to pass this course—in keeping with what is inescapably a labour-intensive discipline.**

Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

TBD

Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)
`Professional screenwriting software (e.g., Final Draft or Celtx) is a necessity in this course. Exemplary films, screenplays, video clips. Other materials TBD.`

This course counts towards the following distribution requirement(s) for students who registered at the University prior to the Fall of 2018:
`20th/21st Century; Creative Writing minor`

Information about mode of delivery (synchronous/asynchronous/other details):
Synchronous, with asynchronous elements (such as peer feedback and story generation workshops).

*Students who registered at the University of Guelph after Fall 2018 must fulfill the "new" major and minor requirements. Students who registered at the University of Guelph prior to Fall 2018 must fulfill the requirements of the Calendar in effect when they first enrolled unless they have filed a Schedule of Studies Change Request to change to the 2018-2019 calendar. For more information, please consult the major and minor checklists at https://www.uoguelph.ca/arts/sets/undergraduate/english/current-student-information.